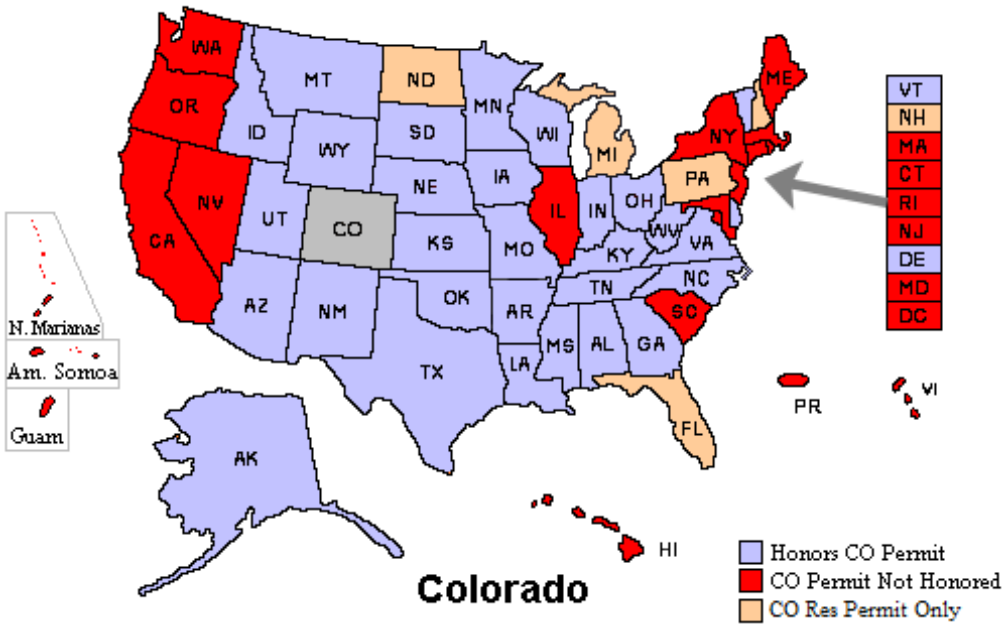
Colorado

Shall Issue

Must Inform Officer Immediately: NO

(See Must Inform Section)



Note – MN only Honors CO Permits issued or renewed on or after 8/1/24.

Note: Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, West Virginia and Wyoming have "Permitless Carry" Anyone who can legally possess a firearm under state and federal law may carry in these states without a Permit. Check each states page for age or other restrictions that may apply.

Colorado CCW Links

State Firearms Site

CCW Application

State FAQs

St. Patrol Firearm FAQs

State Statutes

State Admin Rules

State Reciprocity Info

State Attorney General

Boulder Co. Sheriff Info

El Paso Co. Sheriff Info

Firearms Legislation, Rules & Statutes

Firearm/Weapon Laws

Age to Carry a Firearm In Other States

Last Updated: **8/3/2026**

Permits/Licenses This State Honors Listed Below

Alabama	Alaska	Arizona	Arkansas	Delaware	Florida
Georgia	Idaho	Indiana	Iowa	Kansas	Kentucky
Louisiana	Michigan	Minnesota	Mississippi	Missouri	Montana,
Nebraska	New Hampshire	New Mexico	North Carolina	North Dakota	Ohio
Oklahoma	Pennsylvania	South Dakota	Tennessee	Texas	Utah
Virginia	West Virginia	Wisconsin	Wyoming		

Colorado Does Not Honor Non-Resident Permits/Licenses. You must be a resident of the state they honor for your permit to be valid in Colorado (Must be 21 Years of Age)

Reciprocity/How This State Honors Other States Permit/Licenses

18-12-213. Reciprocity

(1) A permit to carry a concealed handgun or a concealed weapon that is issued by a state that recognizes the

validity of permits issued pursuant to this part 2 shall be valid in this state in all respects as a permit issued pursuant to this part 2 if the permit is issued to a person who is:

(a) Twenty-one years of age or older; and

(b) (I) A resident of the state that issued the permit, as demonstrated by the address stated on a valid picture identification that is issued by the state that issued the permit and is carried by the permit holder; or

(II) A resident of Colorado for no more than ninety days, as determined by the date of issuance on a valid picture identification issued by Colorado and carried by the permit holder.

(2) For purposes of this section, a "valid picture identification" means a driver's license or a state identification issued in lieu of a driver's license. L. 2007: Entire section amended, p. 956, § 1, effective May 17.

How to Apply for a Permit

Your Local Sheriff issues Permit/Licenses. **Links to All Local Sheriffs CCW Info.** Contact them and they will give you the application and Information you need to apply for a permit/license.

A Colorado permit to carry is valid for 5 years. Seems some counties have their own application form.

Cost is $52.50 to the state plus the Sheriff can charge you additional fees up to $100.00**.** **Fee Chart Here.**

18-12-205. Sheriff - Application - Procedure - Background Check.

(1) (a) To obtain a permit, a person shall submit a permit application on a statewide standardized form developed by the sheriffs and available from each sheriff. The permit application form shall solicit only the following information from the applicant:

(I) The applicant's full name, date of birth, and address;

(II) The applicant's birth name, if different from the name provided pursuant to subparagraph (I) of this paragraph (a), and any other names the applicant may have used or by which the applicant may have been known;

(III) The applicant's home address or addresses for the ten-year period immediately preceding submittal of the application;

(IV) Whether the applicant is a resident of this state as of the date of application and whether the applicant has a valid driver's license or other state-issued photo identification or military order proving residence; and

(V) Whether the applicant meets the criteria for obtaining a permit specified in section 18-12-203 (1).

(b) The permit application form shall not require the applicant to waive or release a right or privilege, including but not limited to waiver or release of privileged or confidential information contained in medical records.

(2) (a) An applicant shall complete the permit application form and return it, in person, to the sheriff of the county or city and county in which the applicant resides or to the sheriff of the county or city and county in which the applicant maintains a secondary residence or owns or leases real property used by the applicant in a business. The applicant shall sign the completed permit application form in person before the sheriff. The applicant shall provide his or her signature voluntarily upon a sworn oath that the applicant knows the contents of the permit application and that the information contained in the permit application is true and correct. An applicant who knowingly and intentionally makes a false or misleading statement on a permit application or deliberately omits any material information requested on the application commits perjury as described in section 18-8-503. Upon conviction, the applicant shall be punished as provided in section 18-

1.3-501. In addition, the applicant shall be denied the right to obtain or possess a permit, and the sheriff shall revoke the applicant's permit if issued prior to conviction.

(b) An applicant shall also submit to the sheriff a permit fee not to exceed one hundred dollars for processing the permit application. The sheriff shall set the amount of the permit fee as provided in subsection (5) of this section. In addition, the applicant shall submit an amount specified by the director of the bureau, pursuant to section 24-72-306, C.R.S., for processing the applicant's fingerprints through the bureau and through the federal bureau of investigation. Neither the permit fee nor the fingerprint processing fee shall be refundable in the event the sheriff denies the applicant's permit application or suspends or revokes the permit subsequent to issuance.

(3) In addition to the items specified in subsection (2) of this section, an applicant, when submitting the completed permit application, shall submit the following items to the sheriff:

(a) Documentary evidence demonstrating competence with a handgun as specified in section **18-12-203** (1) (h); and **Note:** Law states Training Valid for One Year. El Paso Sheriff says 6 months. Check with sheriff.

(b) A full frontal view color photograph of the applicant's head taken within the thirty days immediately preceding submittal of the permit application; except that the applicant need not submit a photograph if the sheriff photographs the applicant for purposes of issuing a permit. Any photograph submitted shall show the applicant's full head, including hair and facial features, and the depiction of the applicant's head shall measure one and one-eighth inches wide and one and one-fourth inches high.

(4) (a) The sheriff shall witness an applicant's signature on the permit application as provided in subsection (2) of this section and verify that the person making application for a permit is the same person who appears in any photograph submitted and the same person who signed the permit application form. To verify the applicant's identity, the applicant shall present to the sheriff the applicant's valid Colorado driver's license or valid Colorado or military photo identification.

(b) After verifying the applicant's identity, the sheriff shall take two complete sets of the applicant's fingerprints. The sheriff shall submit both sets of fingerprints to the bureau, and the sheriff shall not retain a set of the applicant's fingerprints.

(c) After receipt of a permit application and the items specified in this section, the sheriff shall verify that the applicant meets the criteria specified in section 18-12-203 (1) and is not a danger as described in section 18-12-203 (2). The verification at a minimum shall include requesting the bureau to conduct a search of the national instant criminal background check system and a search of the state integrated criminal justice information system to determine whether the applicant meets the criteria specified in section 18-12-203 (1). In addition, if the applicant resides in a municipality or town, the sheriff shall consult with the police department of the municipality or town in which the applicant resides, and the sheriff may consult with other local law enforcement agencies.

(5) The sheriff in each county or city and county in the state shall establish the amount of the new and renewal permit fees within his or her jurisdiction. The amount of the new and renewal permit fees shall comply with the limits specified in paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of this section and section 18-12-211 (1), respectively. The fee amounts shall reflect the actual direct and indirect costs to the sheriff of processing permit applications and renewal applications pursuant to this part 2. ch. 27, p. 168, § 1, effective March 14.

18-12-202. Definitions. As used in this part 2, unless the context otherwise requires:

(3.5) "Concealed Handgun Training Class" Means a concealed handgun training class as described in section18-12-202.5 and does not include a refresher class.

(6.5) "Refresher Class" Means a concealed handgun refresher class as described in section 18-12-202.5(4).

(8) "**Training Certificate**" means a certificate issued by a verified instructor who conducts a concealed handgun training class or a refresher class that evidences an applicant's successful completion of the class requirements.

(9) "Verified Instructor" Means an instructor for a firearms safety course verified as a firearms instructor by a sheriff pursuant to section 18-12-202.7. (SB 25-300), ch. 428, p. 2446, § 18, effective August 6.

Note: Larimer County Sheriff has information on the new Training Requirements for new applicants and renewals (Effective 7/1/2025) which can be seen **Here.**

Renewal:

Bill signed by the Governor 3/14/14 allows permit holders to renew the permit with the sheriff of the county or city and county in which the applicant resides or with the sheriff of the county or city and county in which the applicant maintains a secondary residence or owns or leases real property used by the applicant in a business. Previously it had to be renewed with the Sheriff who issued the permit/license. Per 18-12-211 a Refresher Class is required after July 1, 2025 for renewal.

18-12-202.5. Concealed Handgun Training Class - Refresher Class- Rules. (New Section See HB 1174)

(1) A concealed handgun training class is any of the following:

(a) A LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING FIREARMS SAFETY COURSE; OR

(b) A firearms safety course taught by a verified instructor and offered by a law enforcement agency; an institution of higher education ; or a public or private institution, organization, or firearms training school, that is open to the general public and is taught by a verified instructor.

(2) A concealed handgun training class must be held in person with the instructor of the class at the same location as the students, and no part of the class may be conducted via the internet. A concealed handgun training class must provide a minimum of eight hours of instruction, including the live-fire shooting exercise described in subsection (3)(g) of this section and the written concealed handgun competency exam described in subsection (3)(h) of this section. The eight hours of instruction in a course do not need to be consecutive.

(4) (a) a concealed handgun refresher class requires a student to demonstrate safety and competence with a handgun. A refresher class must be taught by a verified instructor and must include instruction on changes to federal and state laws related to firearms enacted within five years before the refresher class; a live-fire shooting exercise conducted on a range, which requires discharging at least fifty rounds of ammunition; and a written concealed handgun competency exam that tests a student's Knowledge of the subjects described in subsections (3)(a) to (3)(f) of this section. HB 24-1174), ch. 388, p. 2685, § 2, effective August 7

Note: Renewal Class is required for permits issued after July 1, 2025. Training must take place within one year of application and renewal can only be applied for 120 days before expiration.

Emergency Permits

A person can obtain an Emergency Permit if they can demonstrate to the Sheriff that they are in immediate danger without a training certificated per 18-12-209. It is valid for 90 days and can be extended. It can be issued to those 18 or older per the statute. See 18-12-209 for more information but talking to your local Sheriff would be the best course of action if you believe you are in immediate danger.

Moving to Colorado

Per Colorado Statute 18-12-213 if you move into Colorado with a valid permit from your previous state of

residence and Colorado has reciprocity with your previous state of residence your previous home state permit is valid for 90 days as determined by the date of issuance on a valid picture identification issued by Colorado and carried by the permit holder. When you have been a resident of Colorado for 90 days your previous state of residency permit is no longer valid. That gives you time to obtain a Colorado Permit.

Note: New law passed amends **18-12-202.5** stating that training must be face to face with an Instructor. Online type training does not meet Colorado Law. **Link to All Local Sheriffs CCW Information.**

Non-Resident Permits

18-12-203. Criteria for Obtaining A Permit.

(a) Is a legal resident of the state of Colorado. For purposes of this part 2, a person who is a member of the armed forces and is stationed pursuant to permanent duty station orders at a military installation in this state, and a member of the person's immediate family living in Colorado, shall be deemed to be a legal resident of the state of Colorado. HB 24-1174), ch. 388, p. 2689, § 4, effective July 1, 2025

Note: If you are in the military and are stationed in Colorado you and your immediate family are considered residents of CO and can obtain a CO permit/license to carry.

Note: CO statutes state only residents can apply. The Application the CO Sheriffs Org use to put out had and still has a ** beside "County of Residence" in the application. The ** Is still there but the definition of those two ** has been removed. COSORG Application It did say: ** If not a Colorado resident, please explain in a separate attachment why you need a permit and identify any property or business you own in Colorado. Some Sheriffs have removed it from their Application but some still have it.

Places Off-Limits Even With a Permit/License

Notice: More and more cities in Colorado are passing ordinances to ban on Open and/or concealed on some or all of their properties. City owned buildings, parks and other areas. We have read reports that some cities will not post their properties off limits. Do read all of 18-12-214 below especially part (c) (I) as the state gave the cities the authority to ban firearms on their properties.

18-12-214 - Authority Granted by Permit - Carrying Restrictions - Local Authority

(1)(a) A permit to carry a concealed handgun authorizes the permittee to carry a concealed handgun in all areas of the state, except as specifically limited in this section. A permit does not authorize the permittee to use a handgun in a manner that would violate a provision of state law.

(b) A peace officer may temporarily disarm a permittee, incident to a lawful stop of the permittee. The peace officer shall return the handgun to the permittee prior to discharging the permittee from the scene.

(c)(I) A local government, including a special district, or the governing board of an institution of higher education, including the board of directors of the Auraria higher education center, may enact an ordinance, resolution, rule, or other regulation that prohibits a permittee from carrying a concealed handgun in a building or specific area within the local government's or governing board's jurisdiction, or for a special district, in a building or specific area under the direct control or management of the district, including a building or facility managed pursuant to an agreement between the district and a contractor. An ordinance, resolution, or other regulation prohibiting a permittee from carrying a concealed handgun may only impose a civil penalty for a violation and require the person to leave the premises. For a first offense, the ordinance, resolution, or other regulation may not impose a fine that

exceeds fifty dollars and may not impose a sentence of incarceration. A person who does not leave the premises when required may be subject to criminal penalties.

(II) If a local government or governing board prohibits carrying a concealed handgun in a building or specific area, the local government or governing board shall post signs at the public entrances to the building or specific area informing persons that carrying a concealed handgun is prohibited in the building or specific area. The notice required by this section may be included on a sign describing open carry restrictions posted in accordance with section 29-11.7-104.

(2) A permit issued pursuant to this part 2 does not authorize a person to carry a concealed handgun into a place where the carrying of firearms is prohibited by federal law.

(2.5) A permit issued pursuant to this part 2 does not authorize a person to carry a concealed handgun into a place where the carrying of concealed handguns is prohibited by a local ordinance, resolution, rule, or other regulation.

(3) A permit issued pursuant to this part 2 does not authorize a person to carry a concealed handgun onto the real property, or into any improvements erected thereon, of a public elementary, middle, junior high, or high school; except that:

(a) A permittee may have a handgun on the real property of the public school so long as the handgun remains in The Permittee's vehicle and if the permittee leaves the vehicle unattended, the permittee stores the firearm pursuant to section 18-12-114.5;

(b) A permittee who is employed or retained by contract by a school district or charter school as a school security officer may carry a concealed handgun onto the real property, or into any improvement erected thereon, of a public elementary, middle, junior high, or high school while the permittee is on duty;

(c) A permittee may carry a concealed handgun on undeveloped real property owned by a school district that is used for hunting or other shooting sports.

(3.5) A permit issued pursuant to this part 2 does not authorize a person to carry a concealed handgun

(a) onto the real property, or into any improvements erected thereon, of a Licensed Child Care Center, as defined in Section 18-12-105.5, or a public college or university, or seminary in violation of section 18-12-105.5;

(b) In a government building in violation of section 18-12-105.3; or

(c) At a polling location, drop box, or central count Facility, in violation of section 1-13-724.

(4) A permit issued pursuant to this part 2 does not authorize a person to carry a concealed handgun into a public building at which:

(a) Security personnel and electronic weapons screening devices are permanently in place at each entrance to the building;

(b) Security personnel electronically screen each person who enters the building to determine whether the person is carrying a weapon of any kind; and

(c) Security personnel require each person who is carrying a weapon of any kind to leave the weapon in possession of security personnel while the person is in the building.

(5) Nothing in this part 2 shall be construed to limit, restrict, or prohibit in any manner the existing rights of a private property owner, private tenant, private employer, or private business entity.

(6) The provisions of this section apply to temporary emergency permits issued pursuant to section 18-12-209. HB 24-1348), ch. 178, p. 970, § 4, effective January 1, 2025

18-12-105.3. Unlawful Carrying of a Firearm in Government Buildings - Penalty - Definitions. (New Section)

(1) A person shall not knowingly Carry a firearm, whether loaded or not loaded, in any of the Following locations, including their adjacent parking areas:

(a) On the property of or within any building in which:

(i) The chambers, galleries, or offices of the general Assembly, or either house thereof, are located;

(ii) A legislative hearing or meeting of the general Assembly is being conducted; or

(iii) The official office of any member, officer, or employee Of the general assembly is located;

(b) Unless permitted by a local government, as described in Subsection (4)(b) of this section, on the property or within any Building in which:

(i) The chambers or galleries of a local government's Governing body are located;

(ii) A meeting of a local government's governing body is Being conducted; or

(iii) The official office of any elected member of a local Government's governing body or of the chief executive officer of A local government is located; or

(c) A courthouse or any other building or portion of a Building used for court proceedings.

(2) This section does not apply to:

(e) A person who holds a valid permit to carry a concealed Handgun or a temporary emergency permit issued pursuant to part 2 of this article 12 who is carrying a concealed handgun in the Adjacent parking area of a location listed in subsection (1) of this Section.

(4) (a) This section does not prohibit a local government From enacting an ordinance, regulation, or other law pursuant to Section 18-12-214 or 29-11.7-104 that prohibits a person from Carrying a firearm in a specified place.

(b) A local government may enact an ordinance, Regulation, or other law that permits a person to carry a firearm At place described in subsection (1)(b) of this section.

(5) Nothing in this section prohibits a person from securely Storing a firearm in a vehicle, as required by state law, that is at A location described in this section. SB 24-131), ch. 301, p. 2044, § 2, effective July 1

18-12-105.5 - Unlawfully Carrying a Weapon - Unlawful Possession of Weapons - School, College or University Grounds

(1)(a) A person shall not knowingly and unlawfully and without legal authority carry, bring, or have in the person's possession a deadly weapon as defined in section 18-1-901(3)(e) **that is not a firearm** in or on the real estate and all improvements erected thereon of any public or private elementary, middle, junior high, high, or vocational school or any public or private college, university, or seminary, except for the purpose of presenting an authorized public demonstration or exhibition pursuant to instruction in conjunction with an organized school or class, for the purpose of carrying out the necessary duties and functions of an employee of an educational institution that require the use of a deadly weapon that is not a firearm, or for the purpose of participation in an authorized extracurricular activity or on an athletic team.

(a.5) A person shall not knowingly carry a firearm, either Openly or concealed, in or on the real estate and all Improvements erected thereon of any licensed **Child Care Center**; **Public Or Private Elementary, Middle, Junior High, High,** or **Vocational School**; or any **Public or Private College, University,** or **Seminary**; except for the purpose of presenting an authorized Public demonstration or exhibition pursuant to instruction in Conjunction with an organized school or class, for the purpose of Carrying out the necessary duties and

functions of an employee of An educational institution that require the use of a firearm, or For the purpose of participation in an authorized extracurricular Activity or on an athletic team.

(b)(I) A person who violates subsection (1)(a.5) of this section commits a class 1 misdemeanor.

(II) A person who violates subsection (1)(a) of this section commits a class 5 felony if the weapon involved is a firearm, as defined in section 18-1-901.

(2) (Deleted by amendment, L. 2000, p. 709, § 45, effective July 1, 2000.)

(3) It is not an offense under this section if:

(a) The weapon is unloaded and remains inside a motor vehicle while upon the real estate of any public or private college, university, or seminary; or

(b) The person is in that person's own dwelling or place of business or on property owned or under that person's control at the time of the act of carrying; or

(c) The person is in a private automobile or other private means of conveyance and is carrying a weapon for lawful protection of that person's or another's person or property while traveling; or

(d.5) The weapon involved was a handgun, the person held a valid permit to carry a concealed handgun or a temporary emergency permit issued pursuant to part 2 of this article 12, and the person is carrying a concealed handgun.

(I) On the real property, or into any improvements erected Thereon, of a public elementary, middle, junior high, or high School in accordance with the authority granted pursuant to section 18-12-214 (3); or

(II) In a parking area of a licensed child care center or a public or private college, university, or seminary; or

(e) The person is a school resource officer, as defined in section 22-32-109.1(1) (g.5), C.R.S., or a peace officer, as described in section 16-2.5-101, C.R.S., when carrying a weapon in conformance with the policy of the employing agency as provided in section 16-2.5-101(2), C.R.S.; or

(f) and (g) (Deleted by amendment, L. 2003, p. 1626, § 51, effective August 6, 2003.)

(h) The person has possession of the weapon for use in an educational program approved by a school which program includes, but is not limited to, any course designed for the repair or maintenance of weapons.

(i) The weapon involved is a firearm; the person carrying The firearm is employed or retained as security personnel by a Licensed child care center or a public or private college, University, or seminary; and the person is carrying the firearm while engaged in the person's official duties as security personnel; or

(j) A licensed child care center is on the same real estate as another building or improvement that is not a school and that is Open to the public and the person is carrying a firearm on an area Of real estate or any improvement thereon that is not designated As a licensed child care center.

(4) As used in this section, unless the context otherwise Requires, "licensed child care center" means a child care center, As defined in section 26.5-5-303 (3), that is licensed by the Department of early childhood or is exempt from licensing Pursuant to section 26.5-5-304 (1)(b), and that operates with stated Educational purposes. "licensed child care center" does not include a family child care home, as defined in section 26.5-5-303(7). SB 24-131), ch. 301, p. 2046, § 3, effective July 1,

18-12-114.5. Secure Firearm Storage in a Vehicle - Penalty -Definition.

(1) (a) A person shall not knowingly leave a handgun in an unattended vehicle unless the handgun is in a locked hard-sided container that is placed out of plain view, including a locked container that is permanently affixed to the vehicle's interior, and the container is in any of the following:

(I) A locked vehicle;

(II) The locked trunk of a locked vehicle; or

(III) A locked recreational vehicle, as defined in section 24-32-902.

(b) A person shall not knowingly leave a firearm that is not a handgun in an unattended vehicle unless the firearm is in a locked hard-sided or locked soft-sided container, including a locked container that is permanently affixed the vehicle's interior, and the container is in of the following:

(I) A locked vehicle;

(II) The locked trunk of a locked vehicle; or

(III) A locked recreational vehicle, as defined in section 24-32-902.

(c) A firearm that is not a handgun that is stored in a soft-sided container must have a locking device installed on the firearm while the firearm is stored in the soft-sided container.

(d) For the purposes of this subsection

(1) A locked glove compartment or the locked center console of a vehicle is A locked hard-sided container.

(2) A person who violates subsection (1) of this section commits unlawful storage of a firearm in a vehicle. Unlawful storage of a firearm in a vehicle is a civil infraction.

(3) This section does not apply to:

(a) storing an antique firearm, as defined iN 18 U.S.C. SEC. 921 (a)(16), as amended;

(b) storing a firearm that is a not a handgun in a vehicle that is being used for farm or ranch operations that is on the person's private farm or ranch, including a leased farm or ranch. As used in this subsection (3)(b), "farm" and "ranch" have the same meanings as Set forth in section 39-1-102.

(c) a person who lives in a vehicle or in a recreational vehicle, as defined in Section 24-32-902, in which the firearm is stored. A person who lives in a vehicle or recreational vehicle must store firearms in the vehicle or recreational vehicle in accordance with the storage requirement described In section 18-12-114. ch. 178, p. 968, § 1, January 1, 2025

33-14-117. Hunting, Carrying Weapons on Snowmobiles - Prohibitions

(1) Except as provided in subsection (1.5) of this section, It is unlawful for any person to:

(a) Hu**n**t any wildlife from a snowmobile;

(b) Operate or ride on any snowmobile with any firearm other than a pistol or a revolver in the person's possession, unless the firearm is unloaded and enclosed in a carrying case or inserted in a scabbard, or with any bow unless it is unstrung or cased; except that this subsection (1)(b) does not apply to a person to whom the division has issued a permit for the control of predators such as coyotes, foxes, and bobcats; or SB 21-271), ch. 462, p. 3269, § 587, effective March 1, 2022.

Courts have upheld the right of Denver to ban so called Saturday Night Specials and Assault Weapons. Click **"Here"** to see information on these banned firearms in Denver.

University of Colorado Board of Regents Policy 14.E: Weapons Control (Changes 7/30/2025)

Co. St. University "Weapons on Campus" **UC Boulder Weapons on Campus**

Note: **Armed Campus Organization** Has information on all the States Campus Carry Statutes, Regulations and Policies with some covering firearms Policies on each school's campus.

Note: There have been reports that those with a valid permit can't carry on Public Transportation (Buses) in Colorado. Carry is allowed on public transportation if you have a valid permit. Your valid permit is "Legal Authority."

18-9-118. Firearms, Explosives, or Incendiary Devices In Facilities of Public Transportation

A person commits a class 6 felony if, without legal authority, he has any loaded firearm or explosive or incendiary device, as defined in section 9-7-103, C.R.S., in his possession in, or carries, brings, or causes to be carried or brought any of such items into, any facility of public transportation, as defined in section 18-9-115 (4). L. 77: Entire section added, p. 976, § 7, effective June 29.L. 89: Entire section amended, p. 841, § 89, effective July 1.

Note: Your permit to carry is your legal authority to carry on Public Transportation.

Denver International Airport **Off Limits**

30.19-1 General Rule

It is **unlawful** for any person to possess or present any contraband or loaded firearm, as defined in Parts 10.17 and 10.29, on or about their person or property whether concealed or not, in the **Airport Terminal**, sterile, secured, or controlled areas, or while seeking to enter the sterile, secured, or controlled areas at DEN. June 2025

1-13-724. Unlawfully Carrying a Firearm at a Polling Location or Drop Box - Exception - Legislative Declaration

(3) (a) It is unlawful for any person to **openly carry a firearm**, as defined in section 18-1-901 (3)(h), within any polling location, or within one hundred feet of a drop box or any building in which a polling location is located, as publicly posted by the designated election official, on the day of any election or during the time when voting is permitted for any election. The designated election official responsible for any central count facility, polling location, or drop box involved in that election cycle shall visibly place a sign notifying persons of the one-hundred foot no open carry zone for firearms required pursuant to this section.

(b) It is unlawful for any person to **openly carry a firearm**, as defined in section 18-1-901 (3)(h), within a central count facility, or within one hundred feet of any building in which a central count facility is located, during any ongoing election administration activity related to an active election conducted by the designated election official, as publicly posted by the designated election official. Amended 2026 HB 1113

For Federal Restrictions on Firearms see the **USA Page**.

Do "No Gun Signs" Have the Force of Law?

YES/NO ??

With the Colorado State Government allowing local governments to post their property and even ban certain firearms etc local authorities have the right to post signs that would have the force of law as the state gave them that authority. Some local authorities are banning carry on their properties. They do have to post the property they want to be off limits. Do read all of **18-12-214** in the Places Off Limits Section and any sign on any building or Park etc that has a No Gun Sign is off limits to those even with a permit that Colorado issues or honors.

Click **Here** to read an article contributed to Handgunlaw.us by *Timothy J. Priebe, Esq*. on "No Gun Signs" in Colorado.

"No Firearm" signs in Colorado have no force of law unless they are posted on property that is specifically mentioned in State Law as being off limits to those with a Permit/License to Carry. If you are in a place not specifically mentioned in the law that is posted and they ask you to leave, you must leave. If you refuse to leave then you are breaking the law and can be charged. Even if the property is not posted and you are asked to leave you must leave. Always be aware of the possibility that responding Police Officers who may have been called without your knowledge and may not know the laws on trespass etc. could arrest you even if you are within the law.

Note: Handgunlaw.us believes when you come across a business that is posted that you not just walk away. That business needs to know that they lost your business because of their "No Gun" sign. Giving them a "No Firearms = No Money" card would do just that. You can print free "No Firearms = No Money" cards by going **Here**.

Must Inform Officer Immediately on Contact By Law?

"NO"

18-12-204.

(2) (a) A permittee, in compliance with the terms of a permit, may carry a concealed handgun as allowed by state law. The permittee shall carry the permit, together with valid photo identification, at all times during which the permittee is in actual possession of a concealed handgun and shall produce both documents upon demand by a law enforcement officer. Failure to produce a permit upon demand by a law enforcement officer raises a rebuttable presumption that the person does not have a permit. Failure to carry and produce a permit and valid photo identification upon demand as required in this subsection (2) is a petty offense. A charge of failure to carry and produce a permit and valid photo identification upon demand pursuant to this subsection (2) shall be dismissed by the court if, at or before the permittee's scheduled court appearance, the permittee exhibits to the court a valid permit and valid photo identification, both of which were issued to the permittee prior to the date on which the permittee was charged with failure to carry and produce a permit and valid photo identification upon demand. SB 21-271), ch. 462, p. 3212, § 349, effective March 1, 2022

Carry In State Parks//WMA/Road Side Rest Areas & St. /Nat. Forests

Carry Allowed in these Areas:

***State Parks:** **YES** **CRS 18-12-214.**

State/National Forests: **YES** **CRS 18-12-214.**

State WMA: **YES** **CRS 18-12-214.**

Road Side Rest Areas: **YES**

***Notice:** If State Park Carry is Legal in this state and if that state park is located on a lake created by the US Army Corp of Engineers (COE) who owns the land and leases it to the state for that park the park is Off Limits to the legal carrying of firearms per federal law. **36 CFR 327.13** District Commanders received this Memorandum detailing how they could authorize someone to carry on (COE) property. The (COE) has also

put out a Pamphlet on carrying firearms on (COE) Property. They do not post their property you must know the boundaries. Hunting **is usually** allowed during hunting season.

RV/Car Carry Without a Permit/License

18-12-204. Permit Contents - Validity - Carrying Requirements.

(3) (a) a person who may lawfully possess a handgun may carry a handgun under the following circumstances without obtaining a permit and the handgun shall not be considered concealed:

(I) the handgun is in the possession of a person who is in a private automobile or in some other private means of conveyance and who carries the handgun for a legal use, including self-defense.

SB 21-271), ch. 462, p. 3212, § 349, effective March 1, 2022

Note: If you get out of the vehicle you can not carry concealed but must open carry unless you have a permit Colorado Issues or Honors. Also see Misc Section on what Co Considers a Loaded Long Gun.

33-6-125. Possession of a Loaded Firearm in a Motor Vehicle

It is unlawful for any person, except a person authorized by law or by the division, to possess or have under the person's control any firearm, other than a pistol or revolver, in or on any motor vehicle unless the chamber of the firearm is unloaded. Any person in possession or in control of a rifle or shotgun in a motor vehicle shall allow any peace officer who is empowered and acting under the authority granted in section 33-6-101 to enforce articles 1 to 6 of this title 33 to inspect the chamber of any rifle or shotgun in the motor vehicle. For the purposes of this section, a "muzzle-loader" shall be considered unloaded if it is not primed, and "primed" means having a percussion cap on the nipple or flint in the striker and powder in the flash pan. Any person who violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine of one hundred dollars and an assessment of fifteen license suspension points..

HB 19-1026), ch. 423, p. 3696, § 12, effective July 1.2019

18-12-114.5. Secure Firearm Storage in a Vehicle - Penalty -Definition.

(1) (a) A person shall not knowingly leave a handgun in an unattended vehicle unless the handgun is in a locked hard-sided container that is placed out of plain view, including a locked container that is permanently affixed to the vehicle's interior, and the container is in any of the following:

(I) A locked vehicle;

(II) The locked trunk of a locked vehicle; or

(III) A locked recreational vehicle, as defined in section 24-32-902.

(b) A person shall not knowingly leave a firearm that is not a handgun in an unattended vehicle unless the firearm is in a locked hard-sided or locked soft-sided container, including a locked container that is permanently affixed the vehicle's interior, and the container is in of the following:

(I) A locked vehicle;

(II) The locked trunk of a locked vehicle; or

(III) A locked recreational vehicle, as defined in section 24-32-902.

(c) A firearm that is not a handgun that is stored in a soft-sided container must have a locking device installed on the firearm while the firearm is stored in the soft-sided container.

(d) For the purposes of this subsection

(1) A locked glove compartment or the locked center console of a vehicle is A locked hard-sided container.

(2) A person who violates subsection (1) of this section commits unlawful storage of a firearm in a vehicle. Unlawful storage of a firearm in a vehicle is a civil infraction.

(3) This section does not apply to:

(a) storing an antique firearm, as defined iN 18 U.S.C. SEC. 921 (a)(16), as amended;

(b) storing a firearm that is a not a handgun in a vehicle that is being used for farm or ranch operations that is on the person's private farm or ranch, including a leased farm or ranch. As used in this subsection (3)(b), "farm" and "ranch" have the same meanings as Set forth in section 39-1-102.

(c) a person who lives in a vehicle or in a recreational vehicle, as defined in Section 24-32-902, in which the firearm is stored. A person who lives in a vehicle or recreational vehicle must store firearms in the vehicle or recreational vehicle in accordance with the storage requirement described In section 18-12-114. HB 24-1348), ch. 178, p. 968, § 1, 1/1/25

Open Carry (Without a Valid Permit/License)

Open Carry is legal in Colorado with exceptions. Places as listed in the "Places Off Limits" above apply to those who open carry. Those who open Carry also have more restrictions than those with a Concealed Carry Permit/License. Public Transportation is off limits to those who Open Carry. (See 18-9-118) See the "RV/Car Carry Without a Permit" section for carrying in a vehicle. Denver won a court case stating it can control Open Carry in Denver and Open Carry is illegal in Denver. Other cities have banned Open Carry on their city owned property. The Minimum age for Open Carry is 18.

29-11.7-104. Regulation - Carrying – Posting

A local government may enact an ordinance, regulation, or other law that prohibits the open carrying of a firearm in a building or specific area within the local government's jurisdiction. **If a local government enacts an ordinance, regulation, or other law that prohibits the open carrying of a firearm in a building or specific area, the local government shall post signs at the public entrances to the building or specific area informing persons that the open carrying of firearms is prohibited in the building or specific area.** p. 653, § 2, effective March 18

In some states Open Carry is forbidden in places where those with a valid permit/license can carry. This is not the last word on Open Carry in this state. Go to Google and type in State Name Open Carry or Open Carry State Name for a search for open carry info in this state. Check with the **State's RKBA** Organization/s. Also see "Attorney General Opinions/Court Cases" Section for any written opinions/Cases on Open Carry.

State Preemption

29-11.7-101. Legislative Declaration.

(1) The general assembly hereby finds that:

(a) Section 3 of article II of the state constitution, the article referred to as the state bill of rights, declares that all persons have certain inalienable rights, which include the right to defend their lives and liberties;

(b) Section 13 of article II of the state constitution protects the fundamental right of a person to keep and bear arms and implements section 3 of article II of the state constitution;

(c) The general assembly recognizes a duty to protect and defend the fundamental civil rights set forth in paragraphs (a) and (b) of this subsection (1);

(d) the state has an interest in the regulation of firearms due to the ease of transporting firearms between local jurisdictions; and

(e) Officials of local governments are uniquely equipped to make determinations as to regulations necessary in their local Jurisdictions.

(2) Based on the findings specified in subsection (1) of this section, the general assembly concludes that the regulation of firearms is a matter of state and local concern. SB 21-256), ch. 269, p. 1555, § 1, effective June 19

29-11.7-103. Local Regulations Governing Firearms Permitted

(1) Unless otherwise expressly prohibited pursuant to state law, a local government may enact an ordinance, regulation, or other law governing or prohibiting the sale, purchase, transfer, or possession of a firearm, ammunition, or firearm component or accessory that a person may lawfully sell, purchase, transfer, or possess under state or federal law. The local ordinance, regulation, or other law may not impose a requirement on the sale, purchase, transfer, or possession of a firearm, ammunition, or firearm component or accessory that is less restrictive than state law, and any less restrictive ordinance, regulation, or other law enacted by a local government before the effective date of this section, as amended in 2021, is void and unenforceable. A local ordinance, regulation, or other law governing the sale, purchase, transfer, or possession of a firearm, ammunition, or firearm component or accessory may only impose a criminal penalty for a violation upon a person who knew or reasonably should have known that the person's conduct was prohibited.

(2) Nothing in this section requires the Colorado bureau of investigation to consider anything other than state or federal law in its background approval process and determinations.

(3) Nothing in this section authorizes a local government to restrict the manufacture or sale of items pursuant to a United States military or law enforcement procurement contract. SB 21-256), ch. 269, p. 1556, § 3, effective June 19

18-12-105.6. Limitation on Local Ordinances Regarding Firearms In Private Vehicles.

(1) The general assembly hereby finds that:

(a) A person carrying a weapon in a private automobile or other private means of conveyance for hunting or for lawful protection of such person's or another's person or property, as permitted in sections 18-12-105 (2)(b) and 18-12-105.5 (3)(c), may tend to travel within a county, city and county, or municipal jurisdiction or in or through different county, city and county, and municipal jurisdictions, en route to the person's destination;

(b) Inconsistent laws exist in local jurisdictions with regard to the circumstances under which weapons may be carried in automobiles and other private means of conveyance;

(c) This inconsistency creates a confusing patchwork of laws that unfairly subjects a person who lawfully travels with a weapon to criminal penalties because he or she travels within a jurisdiction or into or through another jurisdiction;

(d) This inconsistency places citizens in the position of not knowing when they may be violating local laws while traveling within a jurisdiction or in, through, or between different jurisdictions, and therefore being unable to avoid committing a crime.

(2) (a) Based on the findings specified in subsection (1) of this section, the general assembly concludes that the carrying of weapons in private automobiles or other private means of conveyance for hunting or for lawful protection of a person's or another's person or property while traveling into, through, or within a municipal, county, or city and county jurisdiction, regardless of the number of times the

person stops in a jurisdiction, is a matter of statewide concern and, except as described in section 18-12-114.5, is not an offense.

(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no municipality, county, or city and county shall have the authority to enact or enforce any ordinance or resolution that would restrict a person's ability to travel with a weapon in a private automobile or other private means of conveyance for hunting or for lawful protection of a person's or another's person or property while traveling into, through, or within, a municipal, county, or city and county jurisdiction, regardless of the number of times the person stops in a jurisdiction. HB 24-1348), ch. 178, p. 970, § 3, effective January 1, 2025.

29-11.7-104. Regulation - Carrying - Posting.

A local government may enact an ordinance, regulation, or other law that prohibits the open carrying of a firearm in a building or specific area within the local government's jurisdiction. If a local government enacts an ordinance, regulation, or other law that prohibits the open carrying of a firearm in a building or specific area, the local government shall post signs at the public entrances to the building or specific area informing persons that the open carrying of firearms is prohibited in the building or specific area.

p. 653, § 2, effective March 18

29-11.7-101.5. Definitions

(1) "firearm component or accessory" means an item contained in, used in conjunction with, or mounted to a firearm.

(2) "local government" means a statutory or home rule city and county, county, city, or town.

SB 21-256), ch. 269, p. 1556, § 1, effective June 19

Deadly Force Laws

Title 18, Article 1, Part 7

18-1-701. Execution of public duty.
18-1-702. Choice of evils.
18-1-703. Use of physical force - special relationships.
18-1-704. Use of physical force in defense of a person.
18-1-704.5. Use of deadly physical force against an intruder.
18-1-705. Use of physical force in defense of premises.
18-1-706. Use of physical force in defense of property.
18-1-707. Use of physical force in making an arrest or in preventing an escape.
18-1-708. Duress.
18-1-709. Entrapment.
18-1-710. Affirmative defense.

Knife Laws State/Cities

To access State/Local Knife Laws Click "Here"

Carry in Restaurants That Serve Alcohol

YES **18-12-106 (1)(d)**

Note: A "YES" above means you can carry into places like described below. "NO" means you can't. Handgunlaw.us definition of "Restaurant Carry" is carry in a restaurant that serves alcohol. Places

like Friday's or Red Lobster unless posted with "No Gun Signs." This may or may not mean the bar or the bar area of a restaurant. But you can carry your firearm into a restaurant that serves alcohol and sit and eat without consuming. Handgunlaw.us recommends you not sit at the Bar or in the Bar area of such restaurants. In some states it is illegal to be in the Bar area of such restaurants. Handgunlaw.us believes you should never consume alcohol when carrying your firearm. In some states it is illegal to take even one drink while carrying a firearm. If you want further info on carrying in places that serve alcohol check your state laws.

Chemical Sprays/Stun Gun/Higher Capacity Magazine Laws

Note: CBI has put out 2 Technical Guidance Letters on the Magazine Ban. Read them **Here** & **Here**.

18-12-301. Definitions. As Used In This Part 3, Unless the Context Otherwise Requires:

(1) "Bureau" means the Colorado Bureau of Investigation created and existing pursuant to section 24-33.5-401, C.R.S.

(2) (a) "large-capacity magazine means:

(I) a fixed or detachable magazine, box, drum, feed strip, or similar device capable of accepting, or that is designed to be readily converted to accept, more than fifteen rounds of ammunition;

(II) a fixed, tubular shotgun magazine that holds more than twenty-eight inches of shotgun shells, including any extension device that is attached to the magazine and holds additional shotgun shells; or

(III) a nontubular, detachable magazine, box, drum, feed strip, or similar device that is capable of accepting more than eight shotgun shells when combined with a fixed magazine.

(b) "large-capacity magazine" does not mean:

(I) a feeding device that has been permanently altered so that it cannot accommodate more than fifteen rounds of ammunition;

(II) an attached tubular device designed to accept, and capable of operating only with, .22 caliber rimfire ammunition; or

(III) a tubular magazine that is contained in a lever-action firearm. HB 13-1224), ch. 48, p. 144, § 1, July 1

18-12-302. Large-Capacity Magazines Prohibited - Penalties - Exceptions.

(1) (a) Except as otherwise provided in this section, a person who sells, transfers, or possesses a large-capacity magazine commits a class 1 misdemeanor.

(b) repealed

(c) any person who violates subsection (1) of this section commits a class 6 felony if the person possessed a large-capacity magazine during the commission of a felony or any crime of violence, as defined in section 18-1.3-406.

(2) (a) a person may possess a large-capacity magazine if he or she:

(I) Owns the large-capacity magazine on July 1, 2013; and

(II) maintains continuous possession of the large-capacity magazine.

(b) if a person who is alleged to have violated subsection (1) of this section asserts that he or she is permitted to legally possess a large-capacity magazine pursuant to paragraph (a) of this subsection (2), the prosecution has the burden of proof to refute the assertion.

2025:(1)(a) amended,(SB 25-003), ch. 68, p. 300, § 8, effective April 10.

18-12-302. Enforcement of Large-Capacity Magazine Ban by Regulating the Manufacture, Distribution, Transfer, Sale, and Purchase of Specified Semiautomatic Firearms New Section

(1) As used in this section, unless the context otherwise requires :

(a) "Cycle the Action" means to extract the fired cartridge Case , chamber the next cartridge , and prepare the firing Mechanism to fire again .

(b) "Detachable Magazine" means an ammunition feeding Device that is not permanently attached to a firearm and may be Removed from the firearm without rendering the firearm Incapable of accepting any magazine . "detachable magazine " does Not include an attached tubular magazine located under the Barrel of a firearm.

(c) "Gas - Operated Semiautomatic Handgun" means any semiautomatic handgun that harnesses or traps a portion of the High- pressure gas from a fired cartridge to cycle the action using Any of the following:

(d) (I) "SPECIFIED SEMIAUTOMATIC FIREARM" means any of the Following, except as provided in subsection (1)(d)(ii) of this Section:

(II) "Specified Semiautomatic Firearm" does not include :

(A) A firearm designed to accept , and capable of operating only with, .22 or lower caliber rimfire ammunition, unless the firearm has a separate upper and lower receiver ;

(B) A firearm that is manually operated by bolt , pump , lever, or slide action;

(C) A firearm that has a permanently fixed magazine that cannot accept more than fifteen rounds of ammunition , including a semiautomatic firearm that has been converted to have a permanently fixed magazine that cannot accept more than **Fifteen Rounds** of ammunition;

(D) A single or double action semiautomatic handgun that uses recoil to cycle the action of the handgun ; (SB 25-003), ch. 68, p. 300, 8, effective April 10.

Note: Put this here as most handguns operate with a recoil system and don't fall under this law. There are some handguns that do.

The Colorado Attorney General has put out a "Guidance Letter" for the Dept. of Public Safety on implementation of the Magazine Ban as requested by the Governor. You can read that letter Here.
A previous letter on Technical Guidance and more information can be viewed **Here**.

Denver Colorado Ordinance

Sec. 38-116. - Assault Weapons.

(1) Assault weapon shall include all firearms with any of the following firearms:

a. Any semiautomatic pistol or centerfire rifle, either of which have a fixed or detachable magazine with a capacity of more than fifteen (15) rounds.

b. Any semiautomatic shotgun with a folding stock or a magazine capacity of more than six (6) rounds or both.

c. Any part or combination of parts designed or intended to convert a firearm into an assault weapon, including a detachable magazine with a capacity of twenty-one (15) or more rounds, or any combination of parts from which an assault weapon may be readily assembled if those parts are in the possession or under the control of the same person

d. Any firearm which has been modified to be operable as a weapon identified in paragraphs a or b of this subsection (1). (Ord. No. 1493-21, § 4, 1-3-22; Ord. No. 401-22, § 1, 5-16-22)

Vail Colorado Ordinance

6-3H-9: Magazine Capacity: It shall be unlawful to carry, store or otherwise possess a magazine which will hold or may be modified to hold twenty-one (21) or more rounds. (Ord. 15(1994) § 1)

Note: Lawsuits have already been filed (5/2018) on the new Boulder Ordinance.

LEOSA State Information

CO State Police Info on LEOSA and Training CO State Police LEOSA (Scroll down to last question)

See the LEOSA Section on the USA Page at Handgunlaw.us for more LEOSA Information.

Attorney General Opinions/Court Cases

Colorado AG - Universities Can Ban CCW Holders from Carrying

CO Supreme Court – U. of Colorado Ban on Carrying Overturned

CO Supreme Court – Denver Can Ban Certain Firearms and Open Carry

CO AG Guidance Letter to Police on Large Capacity Magazines

CO Court of Appeals - Upholds Colorado 15+ rd Magazine Ban. (11-2018)

CO Supreme Court.- Magazine Ban Constitutional (6/29/2020)

CO Supreme Court – Improper to Argue on Failure to Retreat Before Using Lethal Force (6/29/2020)

Boulder Circuit Court – Bolder Mag and Assault Weapons Ban ruled Unconstitutional. (3/20/2021)

Airport Carry/Misc. Information

Link to State Statutes

Airport Carry: **Denver International Off Limits per Denver General Rule 30.19-1**

Training Valid for: **1 year by law. El Paso Co. Sheriff is is stating 6 months. Check with Your Sheriff.**

Time Period to Establish Residency: **Law Says Legal Resident**

Minimum Age for Permit/License: **21**

Permit/License Info Public Information: **NO**

State Reciprocity/How They Honor Other States Statute: **18-12-213.**

State Firearm Laws: **CRS 18-12-201 thru 216 & CRS 29-11.7-101 thru 104 & CRS 18-12-101 through 111 & CRS 33-14-117 & CRS 33-6-125**

State Deadly Force Laws: **18-1-701 thru 18-1-710**

State Knife Laws: **18-12-101 through 18-12-111**

Chemical/Electric Weapons Laws: **18-12-106.5 & 107 (Elec)**

Body Armor Laws: **No laws found.**

Does Your Permit Cover Other Weapons Besides Firearms? **NO** **18-12-204**

Colorado City Restrictions on Firearms: City Restrictions

State Safe Storage/Access by Minors Statute/s: **§ 18-12-114**

Is carrying of a Concealed Firearm with Permit/License for Defensive Purposes Only While Hunting Legal? **YES?**

I can't find any mention of carrying handguns except for hunting in CO Laws/Regs. When there is not a law against something it is legal.

Red Flag Statute: **13-14.5-101 through 13-14.5-10114 & 13-14.5-101 & 13-14.5-105**

Notes

When does CO consider a firearm loaded?

33-6-125. Possession of a Loaded Firearm In a Motor Vehicle.

It is unlawful for any person, except a person authorized by law or by the division, to possess or have under the person's control any firearm, other than a pistol or revolver, in or on any motor vehicle unless the chamber of such firearm is unloaded. Any person in possession or in control of a rifle or shotgun in a motor vehicle shall allow any peace officer who is empowered and acting under the authority granted in section 33-6-101 to enforce articles 1 to 6 of this title to inspect the chamber of any rifle or shotgun in the motor vehicle. For the purposes of this section, a "muzzle-loader" shall be considered unloaded if it is not primed, and, "primed" means having a percussion cap on the nipple or flint in the striker and powder in the flash pan. Any person who violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine of one hundred dollars and an assessment of fifteen license suspension points.

HB 19-1026), ch. 423, p. 3696, § 12, effective July 1

18-12-108.5. Possession of Handguns by Juveniles - Prohibited - Exceptions - Penalty

(1) (a) Except as provided in this section, it is unlawful for any person who has not attained the age of eighteen years knowingly to have any handgun in such person's possession.

(b) Any person possessing any handgun in violation of paragraph (a) of this subsection (1) commits the offense of illegal possession of a handgun by a juvenile.

(c) (I) Illegal possession of a handgun by a juvenile is a class 2 misdemeanor.

(II) For any second or subsequent offense, illegal possession of a handgun by a juvenile is a class 5 felony.

(d) A person under the age of eighteen years who is taken into custody by a law enforcement officer for an offense pursuant to this section shall be taken into temporary custody in the manner described in section 19-2.5-305.

(2) This section shall not apply to:

(a) Any person under the age of eighteen years who is:

(I) In attendance at a hunter's safety course or a firearms safety course; or

(II) Engaging in practice in the use of a firearm or target shooting at an established range authorized by the governing body of the jurisdiction in which such range is located or any other area where the discharge of a firearm is not prohibited; or

(III) Engaging in an organized competition involving the use of a firearm or participating in or practicing for a performance by an organized group under 501 (c) (3) as determined by the federal internal revenue service which uses firearms as a part of such performance; or

(IV) Hunting or trapping pursuant to a valid license issued to such person pursuant to article 4 of title 33,

C.R.S.; or

(V) Traveling with any handgun in such person's possession being unloaded to or from any activity described in subparagraph (I), (II), (III), or (IV) of this paragraph (a);

(b) Any person under the age of eighteen years who is on real property under the control of such person's parent, legal guardian, or grandparent and who has the permission of such person's parent or legal guardian to possess a handgun;

(c) Any person under the age of eighteen years who is at such person's residence and who, with the permission of such person's parent or legal guardian, possesses a handgun for the purpose of exercising the rights contained in section 18-1-704 or section 18-1-704.5.

(3) For the purposes of subsection (2) of this section, a handgun is "loaded" if:

(a) There is a cartridge in the chamber of the handgun; or

(b) There is a cartridge in the cylinder of the handgun, if the handgun is a revolver; or

(c) The handgun, and the ammunition for such handgun, is carried on the person of a person under the age of eighteen years or is in such close proximity to such person that such person could readily gain access to the handgun and the ammunition and load the handgun. SB 21-059), ch. 136, p. 725, § 56, effective October 1

Note: It you carry off body in a fanny pack/purse or in the console or glove box and a person under 18 is near or riding in your vehicle with you that person under 18 could be considered to have access to that firearm violating the law. People have been charged with Child Endangerment using this law in Colorado. The firearm does not have to be loaded. If the firearm and ammo are within close proximity of the person under 18 it is a violation.

State Emergency Powers

24-33.5-704. The Governor and Disaster Emergencies - Expert Emergency Epidemic Response Committee – Creation (Edited for Space Considerations)

(1) The governor is responsible for meeting the dangers to the state and people presented by disasters.

(2) Under this part 7, the governor may issue executive orders, proclamations, and regulations and amend or rescind them. Executive orders, proclamations, and regulations have the force and effect of law.

(6) During the continuance of any state of disaster emergency, the governor is commander-in-chief of the organized and unorganized militia and of all other forces available for emergency duty. To the greatest extent practicable, the governor shall delegate or assign command authority by prior arrangement embodied in appropriate executive orders or regulations, but nothing in this section restricts the governor's authority to do so by orders issued at the time of the disaster emergency.

(7) In addition to any other powers conferred upon the governor by law, the governor may:

(a) Suspend the provisions of any regulatory statute prescribing the procedures for conduct of state business or the orders, rules, or regulations of any state agency, if strict compliance with the provisions of any statute, order, rule, or regulation would in any way prevent, hinder, or delay necessary action in coping with the emergency;

(b) Utilize all available resources of the state government and of each political subdivision of the state as reasonably necessary to cope with the disaster emergency;

(d) Subject to any applicable requirements for compensation under section 24-33.5-711, commandeer or utilize any private property if the governor finds this necessary to cope with the disaster emergency;

(f) Prescribe routes, modes of transportation, and destinations in connection with evacuation;

(g) Control ingress to and egress from a disaster area, the movement of persons within the area, and the occupancy of premises therein;

(h) Suspend or limit the sale, dispensing, or transportation of alcoholic beverages, ***firearms***, explosives, or combustibles; HB 18-1394), ch. 234, pp. 1459, 1473, §§ 4, 21, effective August 8.

Note: Federal Law can apply if the state is receiving monetary and/or other assistance from the Federal Government. See **US Code 42-5207** for Federal Law as it applies to States of Emergencies. The state quoted code may also not be all of the law on Emergency Powers held by the state. You should read the entire code on Emergency Powers etc for this state by following the link to the state code.

Minimum Age for Possessing and Transporting of Handguns.

Colorado 18 Y/O **18-12-108.5 & 18-12-108.7**

Note: Do be aware that Boulder has passed an ordinance that bans the possession of any firearm by a person under 21. Outside Boulder at this time 18 is the minimum age for possessing and transporting a handgun unloaded and secured in a vehicle without any type of permit/license to carry firearms.

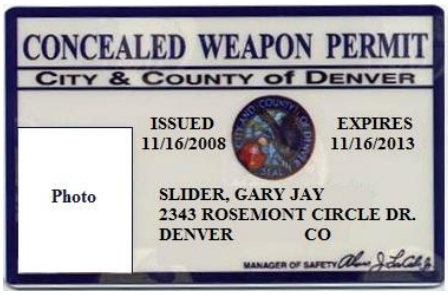
Note: In some states Possession and Transportation CAN be very restrictive in that you can ONLY possess and transport a handgun to and from a Shooting Range, Gun Shop, property you own or other places you can legally possess a handgun. Some states do not have this restriction. This is not the last word on possession and transporting of handguns in this, or any other state. Study your state law further for more information. See "RV/Car Carry" Section Above for more information.

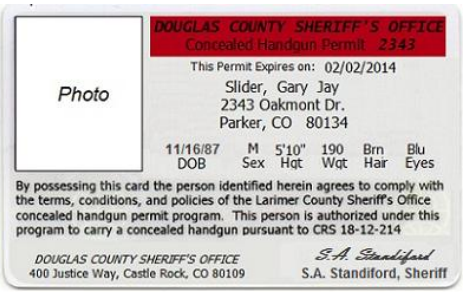
Note: With Colorado's Universal Background Checks private handgun sales to those under 21 would be impossible due to the background check not allowing those under 21 to purchase a handgun. The Law does allow the following types of transfers to those under 21. **18-12-112 (6)** the provisions of this section do not apply to: **(b)** a transfer that is a bona fide gift or loan between Immediate family members, which are limited to spouses, parents, Children, siblings, grandparents, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, First cousins, aunts, and uncles;

Permit/License Image

Local Authorities issue Permits in Colorado. Here are two examples. I have been told the Image on the right is blank on the reverse and is the Standard Format for CO but that other Counties may issue different ones.







Updates to this Page

Archive of Previous Updates 1

10/1/2024 - State Red Flag Statute Added to Airport Carry/Misc. Information Section.
1/1/2025 - 18-12-214,(3)(a) Updated in Places Off Limits 18-12-105.6 Now in Effect in State Preemption Section. 18-12-114.5 Added to Places Off Limits and RV/Car Carry W/O Permit Sections. Note on Armed Campus Organization Link Which Has Information on Every States Campus Carry Statute/Regulation/Rules/Policies Added to Places Off Limits Section.
2/1/2025 – Note Added About New Training Requirements With Link to How to Apply Section.
3/23/2025 – All Links Checked.
4/12/2023 – 18-12-116 added to Chem Sprays/Stun Guns/Higher Cap Magazines Section
5/4/2025 – Minnesota Now Honors Colorado Permits Only Issued on or after 8/1/2024. Map Updated and Note Added Under Map
7/1/2025 – All Links Checked.
7/12/2025 – Link to Technical Guidance Letter from CBI on Magazine Ban Added to Higher Cap Mag Section.
10/15/2025 - 18-12-302 (1)a In Chem Sprays/Stun Guns/Higher Cap Maps Section Updated. All External Links, Statutes and Admin Rules Quoted Have Been Checked and are up to Date and Point to the Most Up to Date Edition of that Statute/Admin Rule and/or Document.
1/20/2026 - All Links Checked and Repaired if Needed. On This Date All Statutes Quoted Checked and are Latest Version of That Statute.
2/1/2026 – Colorado Now Honors The Minnesota Resident Permit Only.
3/7/2026 - All Links Checked and Repaired if Needed. On This Date All Statutes Quoted Checked and are Latest Version of That Statute.
6/7/2026 – All Links Checked.
8/3/2026 - All Links Checked and Repaired if Needed. On This Date All Statutes Quoted Checked and are Latest Version of That Statute.